

from threatening peace and stability in the region.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 8, 1995.*

FIRST REPORT ON THE OPERATION OF THE ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby submit the first report on the Operation of the Andean Trade Preference Act. This report is prepared pursuant to the requirements of section 203 of the Andean Trade Preference Act of 1991.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 8, 1995.*

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL RESTORATION ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-30)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Major League Baseball Restoration Act." This legislation would provide for a fair and prompt settlement of the ongoing labor-management dispute affecting Major League Baseball.

Major League Baseball has historically occupied a unique place in American life. The parties to the current contentious dispute have been unable to resolve their differences, despite many months of negotiations and the assistance of one of this country's most skilled mediators. If the dispute is permitted to continue, there is likely to be substantial economic damage to the cities and communities in which major league franchises are located and to the communities that host spring training. The ongoing dispute also threatens further serious harm to an important national institution.

The bill I am transmitting today is a simple one. It would authorize the President to appoint a 3-member National Baseball Dispute Resolution Panel. This Panel of impartial and skilled arbitrators would be empowered to gather information from all sides and impose a binding agreement on the parties. The Panel would be urged to act as quickly as possible. Its decision would not be subject to judicial review.

In arriving at a fair settlement, the Panel would consider a number of factors affecting the parties, but it could also take into account the effect on the public and the best interests of the game.

The Panel would be given sufficient tools to do its job, without the need for further appropriations. Primary support for its activities would come from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, but other agencies would also be authorized to provide needed support.

The dispute now affecting Major League Baseball has been a protracted one, and I believe that the time has come to take action. I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this legislation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 8, 1995.*

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now take 1 minute requests.

CONGRESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT IN BASEBALL'S LABOR DISPUTE

(Mr. LUCAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to step to the plate and take a few swings at the baseball strike. The Natural tendency for all baseball fans is, I think, to urge Congress to involve itself in this labor dispute which impacts all of us beyond the Major Leagues.

Unfortunately, I am not inclined to believe it is our place to send these players back to their Field of Dreams.

As it stands now, if something is not done, we may have a 1995 Rookie of the Year from the Little Big League.

I would strongly urge that both sides stop slinging the Bull Durham that we have endured for the past several months, and send Eight Men Out to negotiate a workable agreement, or The Pride of the Yankees will be playing for the Bad News Bears this summer.

REQUEST FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT ON TOMORROW DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit tomorrow while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule.

Agriculture; Banking and Financial Services; Commerce; Economic and Educational Opportunities; International Relations; Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure; and Veterans Affairs.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, we have in the last couple of weeks, I think, worked with the minority in a cooperative manner to facilitate the needs of the committees meeting.

In every case, we have been able to come up with an agreement, a bipartisan agreement, I might add, to the issues that we face. However, we are troubled here on this side of the aisle over what occurred today in the Committee on Science.

Mr. Speaker, the members of that committee, we believe, were not provided in a timely manner with the bill which they marked up, a very important bill. Secondly, we were not accommodated in terms of voting.

There were votes going on in the Committee on Science while there were votes going on directly here on the floor. Of course, without proxy voting and the other reforms that we initiated at the beginning of the Congress, it is impossible for people to be in two places at one time. In fact, Mr. Speaker, there were a number of votes today, I understand, that were taken in that committee that occurred while Members were on the floor here, and they were not able to register their votes when they returned back to the committee.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I just mention that for the second time on the floor, and I did it earlier this afternoon, just to alert my friends in the majority that if this type of activity continues, we will be constrained to object in the future. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this type of behavior will be corrected and that we can work amicably so we can move this agenda, which I do not agree with in many instances, but nonetheless, take it up and discuss it in a fair and open manner in which the American people can have some pride and respect for our work.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MIGHTY MARYLAND TERRAPINS

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, This morning there is a cloud in the Carolina blue sky. Last night, as the final buzzer sounded and the frenzied fans spilled onto the basketball court, the scoreboard flashed—number one North Carolina 73, and the mighty Maryland Terrapins 86.